Mr. A. B. Salem.—Am I to understand that it is absolutely correct ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—As it stands, it must be taken as correct.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—It is not a supplementary question.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It is the main question. It is given that no rent suits or suits for eviction were instituted.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It is given there.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I ask whether the question is answered. What I wanted to know is whether you misunderstood the question; because the words "town properties" come in there. Therefore, I ask the question whether enquiry has been made into the cases, before the answer was given.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Answers are given after making enquiries.

The Poor House.

299. **Mr. A. B. Salem.**—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) the total amount they have contributed up-to-date for the Poor House at Ernakulam ;

(b) whether they would be pleased to place any report on its working on the table ;

(c) the total amount available for the said Poor House from any source whatsoever as on the 1st Tulam 1102 ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—(a) The Government have incurred an expenditure of Rs. 5,000 against a contribution of nearly Rs. 3,000 made by the Ernakulam Municipality for this purpose.

(b) Regular working has not yet been started, owing to want of proper accommodation, etc.

(c) No funds have been specially set apart for this purpose.

Certain publications in "the Malabar Herald."

300. **Mr. A. B. Salem.**—Will the Government be pleased to state,—

(a) whether they subscribe for the *Malabar Herald* published in Cochin;

(b) whether they have perused a letter to the editor on 'The Depressed Classes of Cochin' that appeared in *the Malabar Herald* issue on Saturday, the 13th November 1926;

(c) whether the memorial to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General stated therein was referred to them for remarks ; and

(d) whether statements made therein are in reality true facts or not ?

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Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Government cannot disclose correspondence between His Excellency and the Government.

(d) The Government decline to answer questions relating to statements appearing in anonymous contributions to newspapers of such a character.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—With reference to (d), I never asked for any disclosure of any correspondence between His Excellency the Viceroy and the Governor-General. The question is specifically put whether the memorial was referred to them for remarks. I never asked for any paper to be disclosed.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Referring for remarks, I suppose, is correspondence?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—You mean "forwarding for remarks" is correspondence?

President.—The answer may not be agreeable to you.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Your answer is "the Government cannot disclose correspondence between His Excellency and the Government."

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It is printed there so.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—With reference to the answer to part (d), may I know what should be the character of a paper before you take notice of it?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It is a matter of opinion.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I ask what is the character you refer to; what are the details? What character should a paper possess, before you take notice of a publication appearing in that paper?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—What is stated is contributions of such a character and not newspapers at all.

President.—What is pointed out is contributions of such a character and not newspapers of such a character.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Here it is put "contributions to newspapers of such a character," and here "character" refers to newspapers.

President.—Is it not good grammar?

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—No, Sir, I am sorry. I am sorry to say that "character" would refer to the newspapers.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—So the word "character" relates to the contributions? The question is put by a Member of this House regarding a contribution to a newspaper. So, will you not answer that? Whether statements made therein are taken as true or not—that was my question.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The answer is "the Government decline to answer."

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